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21 October 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Summary of Navy Advanced Anti-Air Warfare
System Study

- 1. The major objective of the subject study was to determine the relative effectiveness of various mixes of anti-air weapon systems, including advanced concepts, for defense of Naval Task Forces. Weapons which were considered were restricted to the use of non-nuclear warheads, both for defensive and offensive purposes. The defensive weapons included TERRIER, TALOS and TARTAR, and advanced versions of them, the advanced TYPHON series of long range SAM's, and the short range SEA MAULER, both by itself and in combination with other systems. The offensive forces exercised included manned bomber attack, utilizing standoff weapons, and a limited number of submarines with standoff weapons as well as conventional attack. The offensive forces attacked in waves, and ECM was used by both the offensive and the defensive forces.
- 2. The over-all results which are applicable to the time period through the early 70's were not very encouraging in terms of survivability of Naval Task Forces. With the most advanced long range SAM's, augmented by the short range SEA MAULER, a relatively large Naval Task Force might be expected to suffer up to 30% ship losses from a mixed attack of 90 to 100 aircraft. Variations in the defensive armaments in general resulted in considerably higher ship loss rates. If one considers the possible extrapolation of these results to the nuclear case, very serious ship loss rates are indicated.
- 3. The subject study represents a very detailed approach to the interaction of a Naval Task Force and an offensive force. Like

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many studies of the past, there are some deficiencies in that the imponderables of an actual attack are impossible to estimate. An example might be the impact of brilliant and inspired leadership on either side. With respect to the incremental effectiveness of the SEA MAULER, while it does tend to furnish a defensive capability against attack weapons in the final attack phase, which in fact might be desirable, its contribution in terms of imposed attrition on the

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attacking forces did not appear to be decisive.

Chief. Systems Analysis Staff

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